

**March 6, 2013**

**Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.**

## **High School Students Can Experience 'Moot Court' Through Supreme Court Learning Center Summer Program**

[Press release](#)

## **The Detroit News: Mich. Supreme Court hearing case on whether authorities can be held in contempt for suicide**

"The Michigan Supreme Court is hearing arguments in a case that will determine whether the Kent County sheriff's department can be held in contempt for failing to prevent a suicide. Stephen Bradley fatally shot himself in 2004, despite a court order days earlier that directed deputies to pick him up before he harmed himself or others. The sheriff's department didn't follow the order."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Associated Press: Can authorities be held in contempt for suicide?**

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

## **Apartment complex's liability for guest's shooting at issue in case before Michigan Supreme Court in oral arguments next week**

[Press release](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: State police sued over traffic-stop video request**

"... In an opinion released today, the Michigan Court of Appeals said [Nancy] Prins may be entitled to more than the \$12,250 in attorney fees she was earlier awarded, but she is not entitled to compensatory damages. Prins was earlier awarded \$500 in punitive damages, which the appeals court did not overturn."

[Full story](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: Courts across Michigan look to go electronic, paper-free; Effort looks to boost public service, save time, money**

"Paying traffic tickets online. Filing complaints and related court documents electronically, possibly from the home or office. Ending the wait in line at the clerk's office. These are some benefits Michiganders could reap as part of a technology effort under way in state courts to improve public service while saving time and money."

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

## **Battle Creek Enquirer: Trial for cop charged with drunken driving won't be moved, judge rules**

"The trial this month of a Battle Creek police officer charged with drunk driving will be delayed but won't be moved from Calhoun County. A Calhoun County district judge ruled Tuesday he won't disqualify himself or order the case against William Gensch moved, but will delay the March 21 trial until he holds an evidentiary hearing about the qualifications of a prosecution witness."

[Full story](#)

**Note:** the article is available by subscription only.

### **Daily Press & Argus: Defiant Kowalski gets life in prison (with videos)**

"A Warren man given a mandatory life sentence Tuesday for the double murder of an Oceola Township couple in 2008 proclaimed his innocence. Jerome Walter Kowalski said the jury got it wrong — he did not kill his brother, Richard Kowalski, and his sister-in-law, Brenda Kowalski, who were found shot to death in their Lyngre Road home in May 2008."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Justice Dons Purple: McCormack recipient of Purple Sport Coat Award at Tertzag dinner**

"Friends, colleagues and family of the late Judge Kaye Tertzag hosted the Fourth Annual Tertzag Tribute Dinner Thursday evening at the Park Place Banquet Hall in Dearborn. Judge Tertzag passed away on Feb. 4, 2009, at the age of 70 after a short battle with cancer. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack was the 2013 recipient of the Purple Sport Coat Award. It was presented to her by last year's recipient, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge David J. Allen. She is the first woman to receive the award."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Former Michigan Court of Appeals chief judge dies**

"Robert J. Danhof, the long-time chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals and a delegate to the 1961-62 Michigan Constitutional Convention, will be remembered for his intelligence, leadership, and dedication to public service, said Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. and Court of Appeals Chief Judge William B. Murphy."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **SBM Blog: In Memoriam: Hon. Robert J. Danhof**

[Full story](#)

### **Robert J. Danhof, former Michigan Court of Appeals chief judge, delegate to 1961-62 state Constitutional Convention, mourned by Michigan courts**

[Press release](#)

### **Kalamazoo Gazette: Peter Houk, former Ingham County prosecutor and judge, to preside over Ric Perry arbitration hearing**

"Peter Houk, who spent almost a decade as Ingham County prosecutor and another 17 years as a circuit court judge, will be the arbitrator resolving a contract dispute between Portage Public Schools and former superintendent Ric Perry, Portage school board President Bo Snyder said Wednesday."

[Full story](#)

### **Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Live from Michigan's Supreme Court**

"Michigan's Supreme Court is now streaming oral arguments live on the web. The court has been broadcasting its caseload since 1996 through Michigan Government Television. When that service stopped in December, the court decided streaming was the right solution."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Detroit Legal News: Michigan Supreme Court arguments available online (third article)**

[Full story](#)

### **Live from the Hall of Justice! Supreme Court starts live streaming hearings**

[Press release](#)

### **Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Howell High School students know their U.S. Constitution**

"We always like to say here on Stateside that we are eager to get your ideas for stories that we should tell and people we should profile. So when we got an email from Charlie Todd and Barb Schmidt of Howell - proud grandparents - telling us about a very special teacher at Howell High School, and his very special students, we soon realized that this was a story we wanted to share with the rest of Michigan."

[Full story](#)

### **MLive.com: Judge recuses himself from murder case because defendant Conner McCowan was teammate of judge's son**

"Ingham County District Judge Thomas Boyd will not handle the case against Conner McCowan, charged with open murder in the February death of Michigan State University student Andrew Singler. Boyd recused himself Tuesday, March 5, because he said McCowan is a former teammate and classmate of Boyd's son."

[Full story](#)

### **WKAR News/East Lansing: David Viviano set to begin tenure on Michigan Supreme Court**

"Last week, Governor Rick Snyder named Macomb County Chief Circuit Judge David Viviano to the Michigan Supreme Court. Viviano replaces former justice Diane Hathaway, who resigned in January under a cloud of scandal pertaining to her involvement in a fraudulent real estate deal."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Chief Justice Young: New Justice Viviano is "exceptional" choice for Court**

[Press release](#)